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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,898	06/29/2001	Yoshinobu Sasaki	50090-303	5030
7590	10/17/2003		EXAMINER	
McDermott, Will & Emery 600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096			JONES, STEPHEN E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)
09/893,898	SASAKI, YOSHINOBU
Examiner	Art Unit
Stephen E. Jones	2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2, 4 and 6 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 4 and 6 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 2 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito et al. (of record) in view of AAPA figures 13 and 14 and the description thereof.

Figure 3 of Ito et al. shows a high frequency circuit comprising semiconductor amplifiers 20, 32 {abstract- therefore inherently comprising transistor amplifiers because transistors are the elements used to form semiconductor amplifiers} connected by "distribution" divider 28 and "synthetic" combiner 28 with isolators 24, 26. The reference discloses, with respect to claim 3, that the impedance at the output "b" of the isolators is matched to the transistor amplifiers 30, 32 (see fig. 3 and Col. 2, lines 65-68) with the input "a" of the isolator 24 being $2 Z_0$ and the output "b" being Z_0 (thereby converting the impedance by a circuit - see Col. 3, lines 50-60).

However, Ito does not state that the lines from the divider have the impedance conversion circuit.

Nevertheless, the AAPA figs. 13 and 14 disclose impedance conversion circuits (106) being part of the lines of the distribution circuit (i.e. the AAPA teaches an alternative distributive impedance matching circuit means).

Accordingly, it would have been considered obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to have substituted the art-recognized alternative distributive means of impedance matching disclosed in AAPA Figs. 13-14 in place of the distributive impedance matching means in the device of Ito et al. because such a modification would have been considered a mere substitution of art-recognized alternative but functionally equivalent distributive impedance matching circuit means.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 7/2/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to claim 2, applicant argues that the examiner has not established a motivational element to combine the Ito et al. reference with the AAPA as stated in the rejection of Claim 2.

Applicant's arguments are not convincing. As stated in the previous office action in the examiner's arguments, Ito and the AAPA both teach distributive methods for converting the impedance (e.g. changing width or controlling length respectively). Therefore the two techniques for impedance conversion are considered art recognized alternative distributive methods which are functionally equivalent as recognized by Ito and applicant's admitted prior art.

Allowable Subject Matter

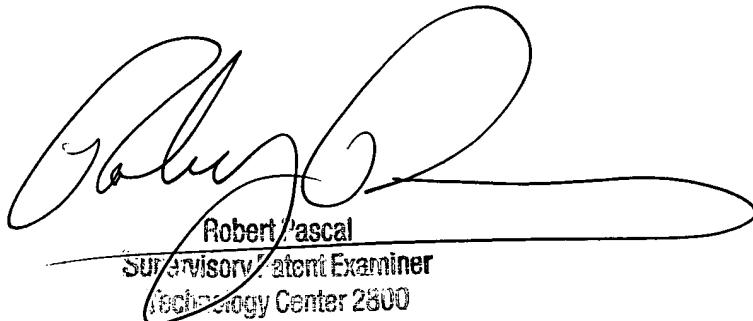
4. Claims 4 and 6 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen E. Jones whose telephone number is 703-305-0390. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Pascal can be reached on 703-308-4909. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

SEJ



Robert Pascal
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800